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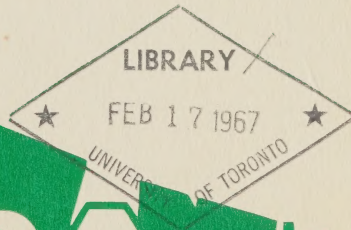


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A GUIDE TO COMMUNITY PASTURES FOR EASTERN CANADA

by
S. R. Burkell



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1966

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A GUIDE TO COMMUNITY PASTURES

FOR EASTERN CANADA

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1966


FOREWORD

Interest in community pastures has grown appreciably since ARDA was launched in 1961. This interest reflects both the upward trend in beef cattle production and the assistance offered by ARDA for establishing community pastures on land that is unsuitable for farming, except as permanent pasture.

This summary of the current information on community pastures is mainly a guide for farm organizations and public authorities in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. It explains the essential functions and the organization required to establish and maintain a community pasture, particularly under the ARDA program. The organizers of pasture projects are advised to seek further information on local conditions, management practices and prices, which may vary from one district to another. Advice on these matters is available from provincial departments of agriculture, usually through the local agricultural representatives or agronomes.

Appendix A contains a list of publications that enlarge on aspects of community pastures referred to in the text. Those who wish to see existing community pastures in Eastern Canada will find them listed in Appendix B.

A.T. Davidson,
Assistant Deputy Minister
(Rural Development).



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A GUIDE TO COMMUNITY PASTURES FOR EASTERN CANADA

PART I: THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF COMMUNITY PASTURES

Most community pastures are established on tracts of land that are unsuitable for annual cultivated crops. They are acquired, developed and managed under government auspices for the collective grazing of livestock on a rental-fee basis. These large centralized pastures provide not only grazing but care of livestock, and other pasture services, for farms in the neighbourhood.

The main tasks in organizing a community pasture include planning the program, arranging the financing, selecting and acquiring the land, designing and constructing the facilities and improvements, allocating the grazing, maintaining the pasture and caring for the livestock. These functions may be undertaken by government, private organizations, associations or co-operatives.

The main purpose of the community pasture is to improve the earning power of the neighbouring farms. It enables the farmer to enlarge his operation or to add beef cattle, dairy cattle or sheep enterprises to his business. This has the effect of increasing the land and labour resources of his farm unit. It is a means of diversifying and enlarging the farm, which not only yields higher returns but also gives greater stability of income to the farmer.

Another important reason for establishing a community pasture is to make better use of land that, on account of the soil, climate, topography or other factors, is marginal for the sustained production of the common field crops. Improper use of land has been, and still is, a contributory reason for low farm returns. When this land is acquired for a community pasture, the displaced farmer and his family have the choice of moving to a better farming area or of taking up more profitable employment. Meanwhile, the community pasture provides low-cost grazing and other pasture services, and thus produces greater returns from the land.

PART II: ARDA COMMUNITY PASTURE PROGRAMS

Under the Agricultural and Rural Development Act, the federal government may assist any province with money and research to carry out projects for the alternate use of land, and for soil and water conservation. The province, empowered by its own legislation, enters into agreements with the federal government to undertake these projects jointly. The cost is usually shared equally by the two governments. Full details are published in the *Federal-Provincial Rural Development Agreement, 1965-70*. Briefly, the main provisions are:

1. acquisition by the province of uneconomical farms and land for conversion to a community pasture;
2. assistance to farm families displaced by a community pasture through allowances for training and relocating, and special allowances for older people; and
3. development of the pasture and facilities.

Each province has an ARDA administration which, in addition to other ARDA projects, is responsible for the provincial community pasture program. Those wishing to get in touch with their provincial organization may do so through the local agricultural representative or agronomer.

A province may develop and operate its own community pastures or may enter into management agreements with other organizations. The three main types of management are summarized below.

Provincial Community Pastures

- The province may set up a board or other agency to carry out its program.
- Development costs for pasture projects are paid by the province with federal assistance through ARDA. The province keeps control of all lands, improvements and equipment.
- Users of community pastures contribute only to operating costs.

- A full-time or part-time manager is hired for each project.
- Local participation in the program is largely advisory, through a committee elected by prospective users or appointed by the province.
- The local committee meets as required, but usually holds an annual general meeting at which users discuss pasture practices and needs with representatives of the province.

Municipalities and Counties

- Any local government may make an agreement with the province to manage a community pasture for its ratepayers. ARDA assistance for development is usually included in the agreement.
- The local authority operates and maintains the pasture. The province usually acquires and retains control of the land, but may offer it on a long-term lease to the local authority.
- The municipality or county may develop the community pasture with provincial assistance, or take it over after the province has developed it.
- The local authority usually administers the pasture and sets the organizational and operating policies.

Associations and Co-operatives

- Incorporated grazing associations and co-operatives are the most common administrative units for projects not run by the province. Any group of farmers may form one of these bodies and arrange for its incorporation.
- By incorporating, the local group establishes a legal body that can hold property, raise capital and enter into leasing and other management arrangements. Provisions for incorporation vary according to the province, but most groups are co-operatives.
- The local group may enter into an agreement with the province for developing and operating a community pasture with ARDA assistance. The province acquires the land and leases it to the association.

- Some provincial governments provide financial assistance and let the association undertake the development; other provinces develop the pasture before leasing it to the local group, who may then gain control of the facilities by repaying the cost over the term of the lease.
- The local group manages and operates the pasture through policies accepted by its members and registered as by-laws. A board of directors implements the policies.
- Provincial regulations may vary. Further details on incorporation and assistance may be had from agricultural representatives or agronomes.

PART III: DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY PASTURE PROJECTS

Development of the pasture follows certain basic principles, with variations to meet local conditions. The main considerations and procedures are outlined in this Part.

Size and Location

While it is not the purpose of this publication to determine sizes, it has been found that pastures of 3,000 acres or more have a much lower initial or capital cost for each grazing animal than do pastures of smaller size. Significant economies may be made in the cost of fencing, water development, corrals, land clearing and other improvements as the size of the pasture and the numbers using it increase. The same applies to labour costs. These economies result from fixed costs being spread over more units of output, available resources being used with greater versatility, labour being more specialized and generally lower prices prevailing on larger purchases.

On the other hand, the community pasture may be inefficient if it is too large. The pasture should be big enough at least to keep one man occupied in the routines of caring for livestock, the pasture and its facilities during the grazing season. A large pasture that is inefficient and hard to manage may be broken up into smaller units.

For a large pasture or several smaller, adjacent ones, the principles are much the same.

1. Have the land appraised and classified before choosing the site. This helps to determine the best use that may be made of the land.
2. Consider access to water in selecting land for the pasture. It may be better to acquire land that already has water than to develop water supplies on other land.
3. Obtain permission to close non-essential roads and rights-of-way, and include this land in the project.
4. Amalgamate the parcels of land in a way that keeps the need for fencing to a minimum.

5. If there are natural boundaries, use them instead of fences.

Some areas have sufficient public land for a community pasture, but often occupied and unoccupied farms must be acquired, and assistance provided for displaced farm families.

The locations of prospective users in relation to the community pasture must be considered when choosing the site. The cost of transporting the livestock to and from the pasture, and death or weight losses incurred in moving them, reduce the benefits gained from using the community pasture. The closer the pasture is to the farms of prospective users, the better.

The amount of land needed depends on its productivity and the number of farmers who will use it. Though the future demand is hard to predict, it is as well to be prepared to enlarge the pasture if the need should arise.

Design and Construction

After the selection of the pasture site, an inventory and assessment of its resources should be made. Aerial photographs and soil survey maps provide general information on the topography, soil, water, ground cover, fences and existing access roads and buildings. A thorough examination on the ground will provide further details. The information should then be carefully drawn on a map of the pasture site, and with this a suitable plan of the fields may be drafted, the improvements indicated and the locations of facilities plotted. The main requirements are given below.

Holding Fields. These are the focal point of the community pasture. As the livestock are assembled here for admission or withdrawal, the fields should be on the outer edge and easily accessible by road for most of the farmers who use the pasture.

The number and sizes of holding fields depend on the kind and number of livestock to be handled and the length of time they will spend there. They are usually held there for a week or two before all of the admissions or withdrawals are completed. Brood cows may stay in the holding fields for several weeks in the spring until they calve. These fields may be used also for sick or culled animals. They must have a high carrying capacity and a good water supply.

Summer Grazing Fields. The grazing areas should radiate from the holding fields, and be laid out so that livestock can be channelled conveniently from the holding fields to the summer grazing and back. Separate grazing is needed for breeding

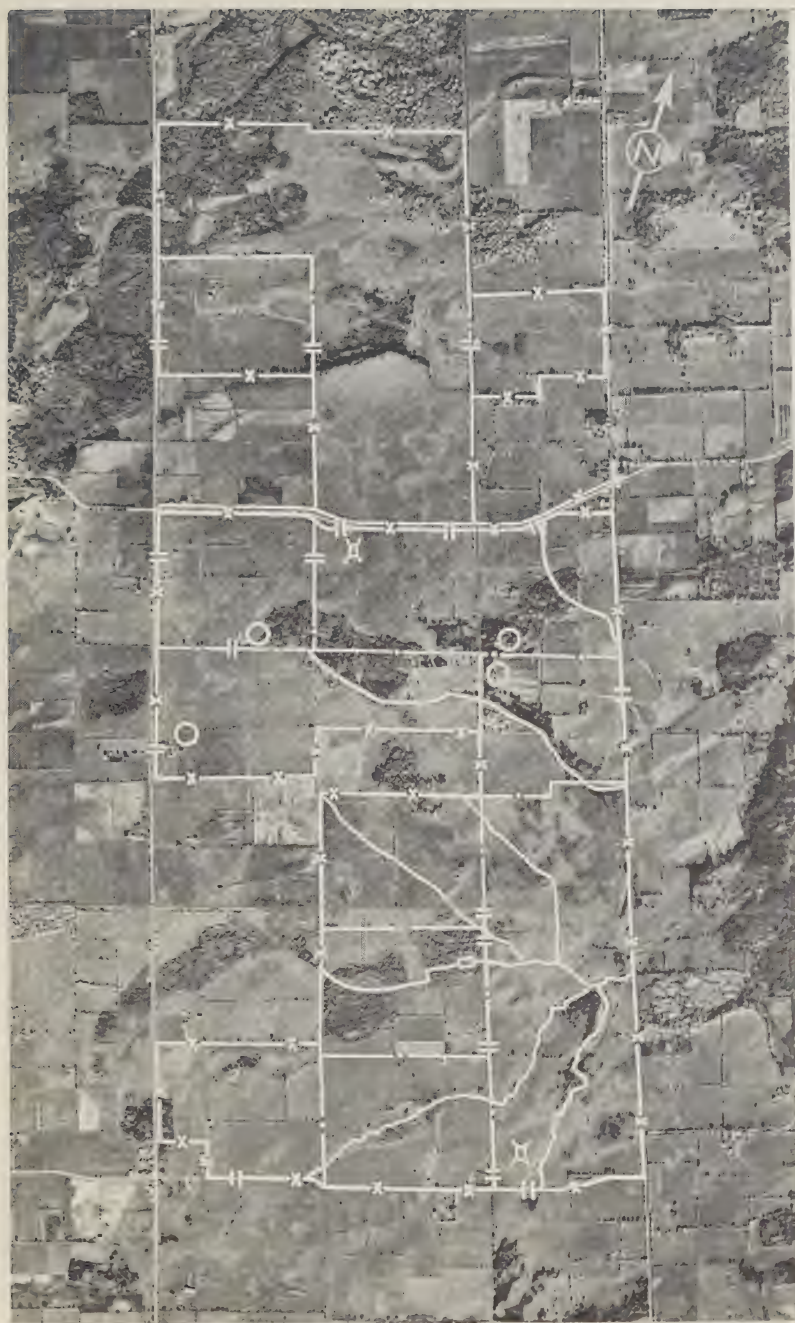
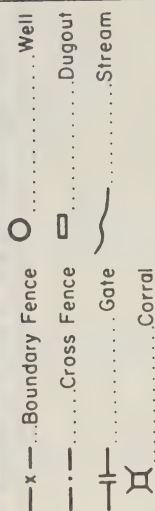


FIGURE 1.- An aerial photograph of the ARDA community pasture developed in Victoria County, Ontario. Note the layout of facilities, and also the additional fencing needed because some parcels of land on the east and west sides, and in the centre, were not acquired.



stock, dry stock and sheep.

The best fields should be the breeding pasture. If artificial insemination is used, the fields should be close to the corrals. For good results, the cow herd must be concentrated, hence the breeding fields must have a good carrying capacity and be clear of brush. If bulls are admitted to the breeding pasture, it should be separated from dry-heifer fields or adjoining farm fields by buffer zones to keep the bulls from breaking out. These buffer zones may be roadways, natural barriers or steer pastures.

Sheep fields should be in the middle of the community pasture, with the surrounding cattle fields as a buffer against predators and other annoyances.

The number and sizes of grazing fields for breeding and dry stock depend on the vegetative cover and carrying capacity. The fields may be subdivided for rotational grazing.

Boundary Fence. This is the first fence line to build. If it is placed about one rod inside the property line, questions of upkeep, ownership, and especially trespass will be more easily settled. Here are the main points.

1. Build a sturdy boundary fence to prevent break-outs and break-ins, particularly alongside farm pastures.
2. Either steel or treated wood posts are commonly used; the steel ones are needed for shallow, stony soils.
3. Place the posts about one rod apart, with extra braces at the corners and other stress areas.
4. Check the provincial regulations on fence wire. If permitted, barbed wire is preferable to page wire for cattle, with four strands usually for dry-heifer and steer fields, and five strands for breeding fields. If page wire is used, the mesh should be small enough to prevent cattle from getting their heads stuck in it. Sheep fields should have page wire topped with two strands of barbed wire.

Cross-Fences. The fences that separate the main pasture fields are similar to the boundary fence, but not necessarily so sturdy. The suspension type is suitable for some cross-fencing on flat terrain; it seems to contain cattle better and can be moved more readily than other types of fence.

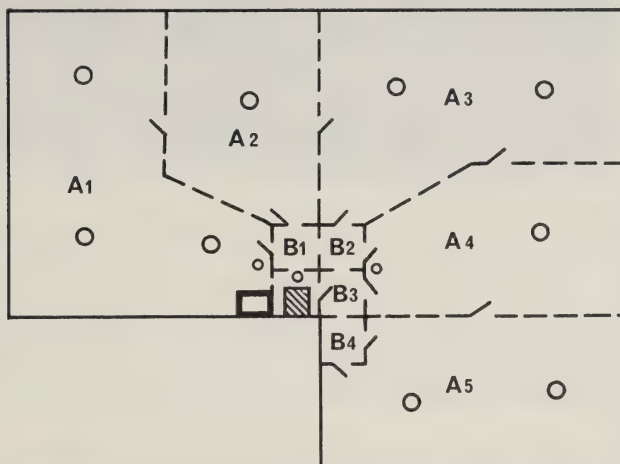


FIGURE 2.- A plan of a 1,000-acre community pasture.
Note the central locations of corrals and holding pastures,
and the distribution of water.

LEGEND

————	.....boundary fence
-----	.....cross fence
— / —	.....gate
▨	.....corral
□	.....pasture manager's residence
○	.....stock water facilities
A1	.....breeding pasture
A2	.....steer grazing field
A3	.....breeding pasture
A4	.....steer grazing field
A5	.....heifer grazing field
B1 - B4	.....holding fields



Figure 3 - The "Texas" type gate on the right provides convenient access for vehicles.

Two- or three-strand regular fences, or one-strand electric fences, are generally adequate for subdividing the main fields for rotational grazing. The fields should be divided to obtain a uniform grass cover in each section.

Corner-traps may be eliminated by ensuring that the corners form angles of no less than 90 degrees. Livestock may be injured by fences, therefore, place watering facilities, salt-licks and other such items well inside the fence line. When wooden posts are used, the fence should be grounded at quarter-mile intervals to prevent injury to livestock by lightning. Large, lone trees are another lightning hazard and should be removed from the pasture.

Gates and Laneways. The proper location of these is especially important in community pastures, where livestock are handled in large groups. The "texas" gate (see Figure 3) is satisfactory where vehicles cross frequently. Large culverts can be installed for safety where livestock frequently cross the road.



Figure 4 - A good system of corrals is essential to the handling of cattle in a community pasture.

Corrals. These are essential for handling large numbers of cattle (see Figure 4). The facilities should consist of a loading and unloading section; a working section with chutes, a squeeze and scales; and a general section with cutting alleys and sorting pens. Build them to withstand hard use. Pay particular attention to the spacing of rails so that young stock cannot hurt themselves by sticking their heads through. The number and sizes of sorting pens depend on the number and classes of livestock to be handled.

Other Essentials

Water Development. (See Figure 5). Livestock should not have to go more than two miles to water if the pasture carries one animal to five or more acres per season, and not more than one mile in a more densely populated pasture. Keep the watering sites well drained and free of contamination.

The natural water supply is the best source, but it may be supplemented by farm ponds, wells and springs. Each trough should hold at least one day's supply of water for 20 to 30 head. Fields that sometimes run out of water may be grazed rotationally to coincide with the water supply, instead of incurring the high cost of water development.



Figure 5 - The importance of a good, clean water supply cannot be over-emphasized.

Grass Improvement. It pays to establish a good forage mixture in the pasture. Here are some suggestions for achieving it.

1. Remove brush or tree cover.
2. If drainage is necessary, obtain professional engineering advice on techniques.
3. Prepare a fine, firm seedbed.
4. Select grasses and legumes that are adapted to local conditions.
5. Sow the mixture in the spring with a companion crop, or in late summer if no companion crop is needed.
6. Use a herbicide on new seedings if weeds are a problem.
7. Base the soil fertility program on soil tests.

Advice on grass-legume mixtures, herbicides, lime, fertilizers and other recommendations for the area may be obtained from the agricultural representative or agronomer.

Buildings and Equipment. Requirements vary according to local circumstances. Small community pastures may meet most of their equipment needs by renting or under contract, but purchase may be justified for larger pastures. The main items are:

1. a residence for the manager;
2. shelter for sick animals, wintering bulls and horses;
3. storage for feed and equipment;
4. extra sheds or shelters for sheep;
5. salt boxes, mineral boxes and insect-repellent applicators;
6. a small truck, a small tractor with front-end loader and a trailer for fence maintenance, cleaning watering sites, field work and transportation;
7. saddle-horses, if required, for herding, inspecting and sorting livestock, and sheepdogs for handling sheep; and

8. tools, ropes, devices for marking livestock, syringes and medications.

Breeding Services. The community pasture may either provide artificial insemination (AI) or maintain purchased or rented purebred bulls. The main corrals are suitable for AI service if they are close to the breeding pasture; if not, provide extra corrals. It is usually better to rent bulls from neighbouring farms than to buy them and winter them. But it is also better to buy good bulls than to rent inferior ones.

Removal of Hazards. Usually the farms taken over for community pastures present some hazards to livestock. Remove old buildings, cover basements and wells, and remove or bury machinery piles. Destroy rodents and fill in their burrows. Fence off dangerous areas, such as bogs or steep embankments.

Other hazards may arise from trespassing, especially by hunters. Pastures should be posted with appropriate warnings.

PART IV: OPERATION OF COMMUNITY PASTURES

The management of a community pasture is similar to that of a farm pasture operation in regards to the care of livestock and maintenance of the pasture. The big difference lies in the need to allocate and service the grazing privileges in the community pasture. Important aspects of management are outlined below.

Care of Livestock

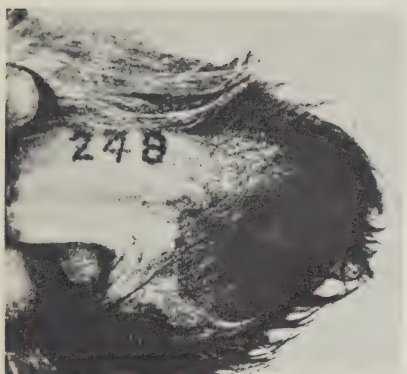
Identification. As the livestock belong to several owners, they must be marked for identification. Two permanent markings for cattle are hide brands and ear tattoos. Branding may present healing problems in humid regions. Other methods are temporary, such as ear tags and neck chains with tags. It is common for community pastures to use both a permanent and a temporary identification mark for each animal (see Figures 6 and 7).

Sheep may be identified by ear tattoos, ear tags or paint marks on their backs. Calves and lambs should be marked shortly after birth; they may lose their mothers and follow foster-mothers, or wean themselves before they leave the community pasture.

Disease Control. All livestock admitted to the community pasture must comply with local by-laws concerning health. Those whose condition is considered detrimental to the health of other animals should be refused admission. Unless proof is given of immunity to the common contagious diseases, animals should be vaccinated. The services of a veterinarian are essential where large numbers of animals from various owners are involved.

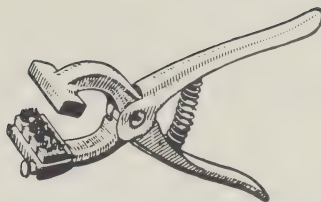
Parasite Control. External parasites on cattle or sheep should be treated at home or on entry into the community pasture. Internal parasites are a problem in sheep pastures and should be controlled by chemical treatments and rotational grazing. Observe the warnings and recommendations of the manufacturer when using chemicals, and consult the agricultural representative, agronomer or other competent authority about proper treatments.

Castrating and Dehorning. These operations are best

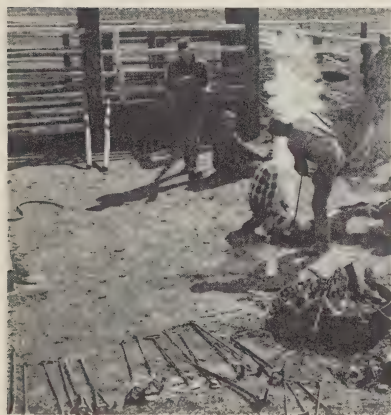


Tattoo in Ear

Tattooing
Pliers



Neck Chain
and Tag



Figures 6, 7 and 8 - Several methods of identification are illustrated above. Easily-observed identification marks are essential in community pastures.

undertaken before livestock leave the farm. Failing this, they must be performed when the livestock are admitted to the community pasture. Calves and lambs born in the pasture should be castrated and dehorned while there, as these operations are best done at an early age. Use only the recommended methods, have qualified and experienced people perform them, and observe the rules of health and sanitation.

Keeping Records. Herd and flock records are essential for keeping track of livestock from various owners. The register should show the names and addresses of the owners as well as details of the animals received from them. The latter should include dates of entry and withdrawal, sex, age, colour and means of identification, and also which animals are to be bred, castrated, dehorned, vaccinated or treated for insects or parasites. Give each owner receipt and withdrawal slips for his livestock. Other items to record are applications for admission, pasture permits and deposits, cash receipts and inventories of equipment and supplies.

Surveillance of Livestock. Vigilance pays in taking care of cattle or sheep. It is important, for example, to move livestock around the pasture as grazing conditions change. Other points are listed below.

- Keep a close watch on breeding stock.
- If bulls are used, count them frequently and keep them well dispersed throughout the herd.
- Cull weak or sick animals to avoid abuse by other animals.
- Be prepared to give first aid for disorders such as bloat, and treat foot rot and other ailments in consultation with the owner and a veterinarian.
- Count cattle and sheep frequently and search for any that are missing. Sheep usually require careful herding throughout the season to avoid losses.
- Take special care of sheep in the lambing season, and also see that they are sheared at the proper time.

Upkeep of Pasture

The community pasture must have continual attention to maintain a high carrying capacity. Keep the soil fertile by applying lime and fertilizers on the basis of soil tests, and clip the grass occasionally to foster its growth. Over-grazing,

winter-killing and low fertility are the main causes of weed and brush infestations in pastures. A regular spraying program may be needed, as well as periodic reseeding when the desirable grass species become sparse.

Facilities. Gates and fences should be checked before livestock are admitted in the spring. Any extensive repairs or alterations may be carried out before or after the grazing season. If snow is likely to cause heavy damage, lay down the exposed sections of fence for the winter and erect them again each spring. Inspect the fences throughout the grazing season, especially in the breeding pasture.

Stock-watering facilities need frequent inspection and occasional cleaning and repair. Watering sites should be well drained and the manure removed periodically. Some types of pumps and troughs must be drained in winter.

Livestock need salt and some minerals. The agricultural representative or agronomist will provide information on local requirements. Moving salt blocks about the fields promotes even grazing. Insect-repellent applicators should be checked and refilled periodically.

Management

One man may have to look after a large number of cattle and sheep, as well as see to the upkeep of the pasture. Help is required when handling animals for vaccination, marking, castration, etc., or when a group is being sorted or moved. Help is also needed for many maintenance jobs, such as fencing.

The usual arrangement is to hire a manager to carry out the main tasks. A small community pasture may need only a part-time manager; a larger project might have a seasonal or a year-round manager. He should be chosen primarily for his ability to handle livestock and to supervise and carry out treatments for them. He should also be capable of maintaining the pasture. Some co-operatives and associations arrange for their members to share in the management throughout the grazing season.

The normal practice is to hire additional labour when the livestock or pasture need special attention. However, users of the pasture usually assist in handling their livestock during admission or withdrawal. The large maintenance jobs involving equipment are often contracted out.

Grazing Privileges

Controlled grazing is practised in community pastures;

the allocation of grazing privileges depends on the pasture's carrying capacity. The prospective demand has to be taken into account in planning the pasture to meet local needs.

Stocking Rates. Before the community pasture is opened, a pasture specialist should set the recommended rate for stocking it. This varies from year to year, and even during the grazing season, but the rate is based on average carrying capacity. This capacity may be low at first, but should increase as improvement plans progress.

Overgrazing weakens the stand of grass, allows weeds and brush to come in, and eventually lowers the carrying capacity of the pasture and the gains made by livestock. On the other hand, undergrazing is wasteful; excessive stands should be made into hay and sold or used to supplement the grazing when the growth is poor.

The opening and closing dates for grazing are set annually, depending on local growing conditions. Stock should not be admitted until the grass is growing, and should be withdrawn as soon as the grazing starts to deteriorate. Grazing extended too late into the fall is detrimental to both cattle and pasture.

Selection of Users. Policies vary according to the type of community pasture organization. Associations and co-operatives base their selection largely on membership, which may be limited to a certain district, to a certain type and size of farm, to farmers with common interests, or according to other criteria. Many co-operatives require each member to have an equity in the pasture in proportion to the number of livestock he wishes to graze. When all the shares are purchased, the co-operative becomes a closed organization, admitting new members only when others relinquish their shares or when the pasture is enlarged. Other associations may not require members to have an equity, but make other conditions. In most provinces, grazing associations and co-operatives who wish to qualify for ARDA assistance must maintain a minimum and maximum range of members.

When local and provincial governments manage community pastures, they set policies for selecting the users. Some typical criteria are:

- preference for farmers whose principal occupation and source of income is farming;
- individual needs, which may be based on the amount of help required;
- preference for breeding stock over dry stock;

- preference for previous users;
- proximity to the pasture;
- minimum and maximum livestock quotas for each user; and
- allocations made by the local pasture advisory committee.

Pasture privileges are granted annually by government-managed pastures, with prospective users filing applications each year, usually a few months before the grazing season. Successful applicants receive permits and usually pay deposits.

Conditions for Admission. Users of community pastures normally remain responsible for losses or injuries to their livestock. The livestock must be in good condition and comply with local by-laws concerning health, including vaccination at the owner's expense when necessary. Cattle with horns are not admitted. If lambs are not docked and ram lambs and bulls are not castrated before they arrive, these operations are performed at the owner's expense.

Pasture Fees. While the federal and provincial governments may pay for developing community pastures, the users bear the cost of operating them. The main expenses are rental of the land, taxes, wages for managers and extra labour, purchase or rental of bulls, artificial insemination services, materials and supplies, equipment rentals and contracts, and upkeep of the facilities.

The usual practice in provincial pastures is to set fees for each type of service on the basis of estimated costs before each grazing season. Seasonal grazing fees are usually charged for sucking calves born before July 31, but none for those born later. Grazing fees for other livestock are usually on an animal-day basis, and fees for other services on a per-head basis. The minimum charge is usually for three months to discourage short-term grazing and the necessity for frequent entries and withdrawals. No fees are charged for dead or missing animals.

The fees are paid before livestock leave the pasture, and are sent to the provincial treasury, which pays the bills. Any surplus or deficit is taken into account in setting rates for subsequent years. As the number of community pastures increases and services become standardized, uniform rates can be adopted for a province.

Each local group makes its own policy for association

or co-operative pastures, but the procedures for setting rates are often similar to those of the province. Any surplus or deficit may be shared among members or carried over to the next year. The secretary collects the fees and pays the bills.

Insurance. For a small annual charge, the management of a community pasture may arrange for owners to insure their livestock against injury or death. This may be done co-operatively or through an insurance company; the premium depends on the percentage of loss that is covered. Usually, the decision to be insured is left to the owner's discretion.

Fire Precautions

Fire hazards vary between areas and seasons. Where a hazard exists, there must be fireguards such as roads and lanes supplemented by plowed strips. Chemical control of vegetation has been adopted in recent years for clearing fireguard strips.

PART V: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY PASTURES

The financial considerations are as important as the physical in planning a community pasture. Whether the plan is for a new pasture, or for the enlargement or alteration of an established pasture, the costs should be estimated and compared with the expected returns. There is no clear-cut recipe for such planning, except that, in addition to its technical soundness, the project should be examined to see whether it is economically feasible.

Budgeting

The budget is a most useful tool in developing a management procedure and examining its economic aspects. When several choices are available, a budget for each will show which is the most satisfactory in terms of costs versus returns. It is essential in budgeting to consider both costs and returns, not income alone. It is not uncommon to find that the highest income potential may require an unduly high capital cost, which makes the project less attractive in terms of potential net return. The following steps will help in preparing the budget.

Pasture Costs. The first step in a complete budget is to estimate the total cost of development, basing this on the latest outlook information as well as current and past prices. It means also taking an inventory of the available resources, and then deciding what to do and how to do it. The main items in the capital cost of development are shown in Form 1 (see page 23).

The second step is to set down the estimated cost of operating the pasture on an annual basis. Allow for any land conservation needed to maintain or increase the carrying capacity over a longer period, and for depreciation on capital items over the term of use. The main operating expenses are shown in Form 2 (see page 24).

Pasture Returns. The third step in budgeting is to estimate the grazing fees required to cover the cost of operating and maintaining the project. This is done by dividing the total operating and maintenance cost by the number of animals carried during each season. The rate charged for any service, such as dehorning or breeding, must reflect the actual cost for

each animal receiving it.

Feasibility

The purpose of evaluating the various proposals is to find one that is economically feasible. Generally speaking, for a community pasture project to be economically feasible, the estimated operating cost should be low enough to set pasture fees that are attractive to the local farmer. Realistic estimates of the net returns for farms that are integrated with the pasture's services, and of the expected demand for such services, are basic to the planning of community pastures.

To sum up, a community pasture is justified only if it is worth the farmer's while to use it.

Form 1: Estimated Total Development Cost

1. Land acquisition: _____ acres at \$ _____ = \$ _____
_____ acres at \$ _____ = \$ _____
_____ acres at \$ _____ = \$ _____ \$ _____

2. Pasture improvements:

Fencing - Boundary fence and gates..... \$ _____
Cross-fences and gates..... \$ _____ \$ _____

Corrals - Main corral..... \$ _____
Other corrals..... \$ _____ \$ _____

Stock watering - Dugouts..... \$ _____
Wells or springs..... \$ _____
Electric pumps..... \$ _____
Windmill pumps..... \$ _____
Troughs..... \$ _____ \$ _____

Grass improvement - Drainage..... \$ _____
Land clearing..... \$ _____
Breaking, cultivation..... \$ _____
Grass seed, seeding.. \$ _____
Other..... \$ _____ \$ _____

3. Buildings:

House..... \$ _____
Barns, sheds..... \$ _____
Other..... \$ _____ \$ _____

4. Equipment:

Tractor..... \$ _____
Truck..... \$ _____
Trailer..... \$ _____
Scale..... \$ _____
Miscellaneous tools & equipment. \$ _____ \$ _____

5. Purchase of Bulls..... \$ _____

6. Miscellaneous:

Roads, fireguards, removal.
of old buildings, etc..... \$ _____

TOTAL ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT COST..... \$ _____

Form 2: Estimated Annual Operating Cost

1. Hired labour and custom work:

Manager's salary.....	\$	_____	
Wages for other help.....	\$	_____	
Custom work.....	\$	_____	\$ _____

2. Taxes..... \$ _____

3. Lease fees or land charges..... \$ _____

4. Materials and supplies:

Lumber and fence posts.....	\$	_____	
Hardware.....	\$	_____	
Ear tags.....	\$	_____	
Vaccines, insecticides, etc.....	\$	_____	
Other.....	\$	_____	\$ _____

5. Breeding expenses:

Bull losses.....	\$	_____	
Bull rentals.....	\$	_____	
Artificial insemination services...	\$	_____	\$ _____

6. Depreciation on buildings and improvements \$ _____

7. Administration:

Stationery and office supplies.....	\$	_____	
Expenses of local pasture board members.	\$	_____	
Other.....	\$	_____	\$ _____

TOTAL ANNUAL ESTIMATED OPERATING COST..... \$ _____

APPENDIX A: OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. *Federal-Provincial Rural Development Agreement, 1965-70*; Information and Technical Services Division, Department of Forestry and Rural Development, Ottawa, Ontario.
2. *Catalogues of Plans: Beef Cattle Housing and Equipment and Sheep Housing and Equipment*; Canadian Farm Building Plan Service, obtainable from provincial departments of agriculture, experimental farms, agricultural representatives, agronomes, or Information Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario.
3. *Plans of structures used in PFRA community pastures, including fences, gates, chutes and corrals*; Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration, Motherwell Building, Regina, Saskatchewan.
4. *Construction and Management of Farm Ponds in Ontario*, Publication No. 515; Information Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ontario.
5. *Guide to Chemical Weed Control in Ontario*, Publication No. 75; Information Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ontario.
6. *Chemical Control of Weeds in the Atlantic Provinces*, Publication No. 1124; Information Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario.
7. *Brush Control in Western Canada*, Publication No. 2140; Information Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario.
8. *What's the Score on Your Pasture?* Publication No. 542; Information Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ontario.

Get in touch with the provincial department of agriculture for further information.

APPENDIX B: LOCATIONS OF EXISTING COMMUNITY PASTURES
IN EASTERN CANADA

Location	Name of Pasture
Prince Edward Island:	
	Prince County
Nova Scotia:	
	Bailey's Brook
	Cape John
	Cape Mabou
	Manchester Co-operative
	Minudie
New Brunswick:	
	Buckley Settlement
	Botsford
	Gilbert Island
	Harvey Marsh
	McNairn
Quebec:	
	Ste. Anne de Roquemaure
Ontario:	
	Algoma
	Bruce County
	Leeds County
	Manitoulin
	Osnabruck
	Temiskaming
	Thunder Bay
	Victoria County

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